Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-02 H-01 COME-00 TAR-01 /072 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:RAHOLMES:CED APPROVED BY EA - MR. EDMOND EA/PRCM - MR. ARMSTRONG

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R 150111Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 035259

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD HK

SUBJECT: BRITISH DEMARCHE ON HONG KONG AND GSP

- 1. HUGH CORTAZZI, MINISTER OF COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS, AND ALEX HERMANN, COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR FOR HONG KONG, OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY PRESENTED AN AIDE-MEMOIRE TO EA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY EDMOND ON FEBRUARY 12 EXPRESSING UKG AND HKG DISAPPOINTMENT THAT HONG KONG HAD BEEN INCLUDED ON LIST OF COUNTRIES SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS ON JANUARY 13 "WHICH CAN ONLY BE DESIGNATED AS BENEFICIARIES OF GSP AFTER CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS ARE MADE OR PROCEDURES FOLLOWED." (BLIST). AIDE-MEMOIRE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENT BEING POUCHED.
- 2. CORTAZZI REVIEWED ARGUMENTS FOR EXTENDING BENEFICIARY STATUS TO HONG KONG AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT HONG KONG COULD BE MOVED TO LIST OF COUNTRIES DESIGNATED AS BENEFICIARIES (A LIST) PRIOR TO THE LISTS BEING SUBMITTED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION (ITC). EDMOND TOLD

CORTAZZI AND HERMANN THAT ISSUE WAS RECEIVING CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION IN USG AND THAT WE WOULD DISSEMINATE UKG'S AND HKG'S VIEWS WIDELY BUT THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT DECISION TO INCLUDE HONG KONG ON THE B LIST COULD BE REVERSED PRIOR TO LISTS BEING SENT TO ITC.

3. EXECUTIVE ORDER SUBMITTING LISTS TO ITC IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED NEXT WEEK, AND MAY GET SOME PUBLICITY. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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TAGS: ETRD, HK, UK, US To: HONG KONG LONDON

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